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Once upon a time...

...there lived a tiny chihuahua puppy whose spirit was so pure that her fur shone with a gentle white glow. Her name was Merita, but many knew her as Snow White.

As a puppy, Merita came to live with a very cruel and neglectful family. They starved her, feeding her only scraps of white bread. It wasn't long before the meager diet took its toll and Merita's beautiful coat turned gray as ash, then fell out in patches, leaving raw, oozing sores all over her body. Amongst other ailments brought on by malnutrition, Merita had contracted mange.

She suffered the itching and burning pain of the mange in silence. Her sweet spirit dimmed as the months of deprivation wore on. By the time she was a year old, Merita was in desperate shape. It was at this point that Tallahassee Animal Services was informed of her condition and removed her from her owners' custody.

Only a day after entering the shelter as a cruelty case, Merita was transferred to LCHS. She was in urgent need of both physical and emotional care. **The mange, while expensive and time consuming to treat, could be cured with relative ease. The emotional scars would prove to be more complicated.**

Simple gestures of affection made her wary, and despite her rescue, she retreated further inside her shell, becoming nearly catatonic. With her special needs in mind, Merita was placed with our Dog Program Coordinator, Amy Raddar, for foster care. It was there that Snow White met the Seven Dogs. There was **Candy**, eternally bashful and **Buck** who was pretty dopey. **Loretta** was kind of grumpy, **Winston** had allergies and **Otis** was always on his way to a nap. **Slate** never stopped smiling, and of course there was **Maverick**, who everyone just called Doc.

Together with Amy, their human, the Seven Dogs made a family, and Merita was welcomed into it from the moment her sore paws touched the cool tile floor. They played with her and cuddled her, teased her and shared their favorite spots with her. Above all, they taught her to trust again, and that life was joy, not an endless cycle of hunger and pain.

What happened during the time Merita spent at the Seven Dogs' home was a miracle. Her spirit, nearly suffocated by fear and pain, began to glow again thanks to her canine caretakers. And as Merita came back to life, so did her beautiful coat, which once again became...Snow White.



First day with LCHS



Just two months later

Snow White And The Seven Dogs

You can help us continue to give abandoned, neglected and abused animals like Merita a Happily Ever After. Your generous gift makes all the difference in a story such as hers. Please use the enclosed form to send in your donation of \$25, \$50, \$75 or more today to save lives.





Does your dawg like to get dirty? LCHS will get him clean for only \$10 in our shady backyard at the LCHS office. Dog Washes are held every 2nd Saturday of the month April through September, and now, October as well! **Get a FREE Dog Wash with a Season Pass**, available now at LCHS.info.



Adopt an adult LCHS cat for FREE every Thursday through the end of June. Adult cats are all fun, no fuss, and this is your chance to find a purr-fect match!



The Ugly Duckling

Once upon a time a small gray cat named Leona lived alone, fending for herself in the back alleys and woods of Tallahassee.

The other stray cats and wild animals made fun of her because she had no fur and her skin was scabbed and crusty. They said no one would want her because she was ugly and sickly looking.

All Leona wanted was to be held and loved. She perfected her purr, making it as loud and rumbly as she could, but still no one wanted her. Her skin worsened with each day, becoming badly infected as fleas and malnutrition took their toll.

But Leona never stopped hoping, and one day a kindly stranger gathered her too-light body up and took her to their local shelter. And while the shelter didn't have the space or resources to help Leona, LCHS did.

After several weeks of good food, regular flea medication and mutiple antibiotics, Leona the Ugly Duckling blossomed into a gorgeous Swan, with a luminescent silver coat and eyes like amber jewels.

It was then that Leona realized what everyone at LCHS already knew. It wasn't her silky coat or graceful paws. It was the sweetness of her spirit that truly made her beautiful.

Make Leona's Happy Ending come true. Adopt this very special cat for a lifetime of fairy tale love.



Thank-Q for all that you do! In honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Week, LCHS staff recognized 450 dedicated Volunteers and Foster Parents with a BBQ dinner and Service Awards ceremony at the Barn at the Old Willis Dairy.

Sixteen Volunteers were recognized for their exceptional contributions to LCHS's mission with a certificate. The Foster Parent of the Year and the Volunteer of the Year will be memorialized on a perpetual plaque that will stay at LCHS forever. Volunteers are the heart and soul of LCHS. In 2013 alone, Volunteers clocked in nearly 5,400 hours of service! They also fostered and adopted out 423 pets! We love our Volunteers for each and every single thing that they do!

A special THANK YOU goes to Peper and Frank Willis at the Barn at the Old Willis Dairy for donating the space for our special event.



Visit www.LCHS.info to subscribe to our weekly newsletter and keep up with the latest from LCHS

Kitty

Score a fabulous deal on new and gently used name-brand and designer accessories while you help homeless animals.

You're invited to our NEW signature event, Kitty Glitter. This lovely silent auction will take place Saturday, May 31, from 1pm-4pm at the Woman's Club of Tallahassee.



Shop to Save Lives

Glitter

LEON COUNTY Humane Society
Kitty Glitter
A FABULOUS FUR-RAISING EVENT

Purchase your tickets at LCHS.info now for only \$20. All proceeds support the animals of LCHS.